

(b) applying said aqueous composition onto a surface; and
(c) irradiating the surface in a single step with actinic radiation in the
presence of the water to form a cured film; wherein less than 50 ppb
of uncured residue is extractable from the cured film when said film is
immersed and heated in 10 ml of a simulant liquid per square inch of
cured film.

The paragraph at **page 3, lines 8-16**, should be replaced with:

*--A further embodiment of this invention is an improved actinic
radiation curable single fluid aqueous composition comprising a
water soluble compound which contains at least one α, β -
ethylenically unsaturated, radiation polymerizable group; and water;
wherein the improvement comprises the requirement that when a
surface is coated with the composition and exposed once to actinic
radiation in the presence of the water, a cured film is formed wherein
less than 50 ppb of uncured residue is extractable from the cured film
when immersed and heated in 10 ml of a simulant liquid per square
inch of cured film. Preferably, the water soluble compound is a water
soluble oligomer containing two or more acrylic groups.--*

The paragraph at **page 3, lines 17-24**, should be replaced with

(Handwritten mark: A large 'X' is drawn across the entire paragraph.)

-A still further embodiment of this invention is a packaging material comprising a substrate and a cured film adhered to the surface of the substrate, wherein: the cured film is derived by providing an aqueous composition consisting essentially of a water soluble oligomer containing two or more acrylic groups; and water and curing the aqueous composition in a single step by actinic radiation in the presence of water such that less than 50 ppb of oligomer residue is extractable from the cured film when it is immersed and heated in 10 ml of a simulant liquid per square inch of the cured film.

The paragraph at **page 11, lines 1-26**, should be replaced with:

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-a surface of a substrate and without any substantial removal of water, the applied aqueous composition is irradiated with high energy electrons or UV radiation in the presence of the water to form a cured film. The aqueous composition may be applied to the substrate surface as a uniform coating using any conventional coating technique. Thus the composition may be spin coated, bar coated, roller coated, curtain coated or may be applied by brushing, spraying, etc. Alternatively the aqueous composition may be applied imagewise to the substrate surface, for instance as a printing ink, using any conventional printing technique. Once the aqueous coating composition is applied to the substrate surface, it is

✓ *cancel*

immediately cured without any prior removal of the water, using either high energy electrons or UV radiation. Typically the high energy electrons have an energy between 50 and 200 kV electrons and preferably between 85 and 180 kV electrons and are typically produced by high energy electron device. The dosage of high energy electron ranges from about 2 to about 4 megarads (Mrads); and preferably from 2.7 to 3.5 Mrads. UV irradiation may be carried out using any conventional off-contact exposure device which emits within the spectral region from about 200 to about 420 nanometers. The water in the coated composition, even on non-absorbent surfaces, does not interfere with curing process, but rather promotes complete curing of the oligomer into a completely cured film or image with little or no extractable oligomer. Water is believed to be removed concurrently with the curing process and/or subsequently during manipulation of the substrate. As used herein the term "cured film" is intended to include a continuous cured film composition as well as a discontinuous cured ink image composition. In either sense of the term, the cured film is adhered to a substrate and has an outer "cured surface" which defines the surface area used in the extraction protocols fully described hereinbelow.

In the Claims

Please amend Claim 1 as follows: